

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This patent application presently includes claims 1-12, 14-48, and 50-57, all of which are rejected. Claims 1 and 37 are amended to define the applicants' invention more precisely, and all rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-6, 8, 15-16, 18-24, 26, 33-34, 36-42, 44, 51-52, and 54-57 were rejected as anticipated by Ngyuen US Patent No. 6,272,283. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Nguyen does not teach or suggests the present invention.

Nguyen relates to copy protection for a laptop PC which disables TV-out while viewing protected video on the PC display. According to Nguyen, when a protected disc is played, the video pixel stream is sent to a graphics controller 58, while the copy protection code 46 is stored in a key register 52 by being sent to the DVD navigator 40 through the software DVD player 42 (see column 5, line 65 through column 6, line 35). In other words, although the video information and copy protection code may be present initially on the same DVD, they are sent to separate locations in the computer. The patent states specifically that "DVD navigator 40 does not communicate directly with TV encoder 50" (column 6, lines 23-24). In contrast, in accordance with the present invention, the copy protection information is added to the input signal. This feature was present in the claims as originally filed.

Turning now to the claims, claim 1 one provides that the determination means is *responsive to the input signal* and its function is "determining whether additional information has been added to said input signal" which relates to copy protection. Similarly, claim 37 includes a signal detector which is *responsive to the input signal*, and it serves "to detect additional information added to said input signal and determine whether said additional information indicates that copying of said input signal is prohibited or limited." Also, the method of claim 19 includes the steps of "examining said input signal for additional information *added to said input signal*" and "determining whether or not said additional information indicates that copying of said input signal is prohibited or limited." Clearly, these claims contemplated that the protection information be added to the input signal that is converted and that the limitations as to copying be determined from that added signal. As pointed out above, this is entirely different than the separate processing of the input signal and copy control information that is

done in Nguyen. Accordingly, none of the claims 1, 19 or 36 are anticipated by Nguyen. Claims 1, 19 and 37 are therefore believed to be allowable.

The remaining claims depend from one of claims 1, 19 or 37 and are allowable based upon their dependence from an allowable claim.

Claims 7, 9-13, 25, 27-34, 43, and 45-49 were rejected as obvious over Nguyen in view of Kori et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,778,064. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Neither Nguyen nor Kori nor the combination thereof renders the present claims obvious.

Kori discloses a method and system according to which a video signal plus a copy protection signal in a first format is converted to a video signal plus a copy protection signal in a second format. There is not the slightest suggestion that the converter itself should block in the converted signal under any circumstances, or that this could be of any benefit. Accordingly, the combination of Nguyen and Kori would still not affect the patentability of claims 1, 19 or 37 for the reasons already stated above. Claims 7, 9-13, 25, 27-34, 43, and 45-49 depend from one of claims 1, 19 or 37 and are believed to be allowable based upon their dependence from an allowable claim.

Claims 14, 17, 32, 35, 50, and 53 were rejected as obvious over Nguyen in view of Ryan et al. US Patent No. 6,374,036. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Neither Nguyen nor Ryan nor the combination thereof renders the present claims obvious.

The Examiner cited Ryan torts disclosure of the use of watermarks to determine the prohibition of limitation. Ryan discloses nothing that would alleviate the defects of Nguyen as a reference. Accordingly, this combination of references would not affect the patentability of claims 1, 19 or 37. The present claims depend from one of claims 1, 19 or 37 and I believe to be allowable based upon their dependence from an allowable claim.

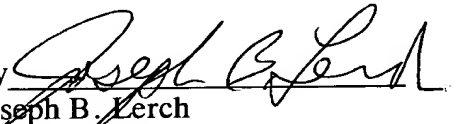
Applicant's attorney has made every effort to place this patent application in condition for allowance. It is earnestly requested that the present amendment be entered, that the application as a whole receive favorable reconsideration, and that all of the claims be allowed as presently constituted. Should there remain any unanswered questions, the Examiner is requested to call the applicants undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he/she telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

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Respectfully submitted,

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